

REMARKS

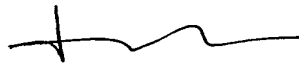
Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 9-10 have been cancelled. Claims 3, 8, and newly added Claims 11-18 are pending in the application.

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the interview on November 20, 2003. As discussed in the interview with the Examiner, in order to accelerate the prosecution of this application, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 9-10, and amended independent Claims 3 and 8 without narrowing the scope of the claims. In addition, as discussed in the interview with the Examiner, Applicants have added Claims 11-18. The amendments and newly added claims are supported by the specification.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



Steven B. Kelber
Registration No. 30,073
Attorney of Record

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085

Lisa Norton
Registration No. 44,977